

REMARKS

1. Specification Amendments.

The Specification including the Abstract has been amended to conform USPTO practice. Specifically, Applicant has replaced references to claims with the appropriate text from the respective original claims and has amended the Abstract to be less than 150 words. No new matter has been added.

2. Claim Amendments.

The claims have been reviewed and amended for clarity. More specifically, the claims have been amended to place them in better English and to better conform to USPTO preferred practice. These changes were not made to address any prior art, and no new matter has been added to the claims. Applicant submits that these clarifications address the examiner's 35 USC 112 concerns and Applicant requests that the examiner withdraw the objection to Claims based on 35 USC 112.

Claim 1 has been combined with Claim 7. As Claim 7 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 1) and any intervening claim(s) (none), Claim 1 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 2 has not been amended and is allowable as it is dependent on Claim 1.

Claims 3-6 have been amended to place them in better English and to ensure proper antecedent basis, if necessary, and are now allowable as they are dependent from Claim 1. No new matter has been added.

Claim 7 has been canceled as redundant as its subject matter has been incorporated into Claim 1.

Claims 8-12 have been amended to place them in better English and to ensure proper antecedent basis, if necessary, and are now allowable as they are dependent from Claim 1. No new matter has been added.

Claim 13 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 1 and 13. As Claim 13 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 1) and any intervening claim(s) (none), Claim 13 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 14 has not been amended and is allowable as it is dependent on Claim 13.

Claim 15 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 15 and 21. As Claim 21 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 15) and any intervening claim(s) (none), Claim 15 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 16 has not been amended and is allowable as it is dependent on Claim 15.

Claim 17-20 have been amended to place them in better English and to ensure proper antecedent basis, if necessary, and are now allowable as they are dependent from Claim 15. No new matter has been added.

Claim 21 has been canceled.

Claims 22-26 have been amended to place them in better English and to ensure proper antecedent basis, if necessary, and are now allowable as they are dependent from Claim 15. No new matter has been added.

Claim 27 has been rewritten as an independent claim containing all of the limitations of original Claims 15 and 27. As Claim 27 was deemed to be allowable if combined with its base claim (Claim 15) and any intervening claim(s) (none), Claim 27 is now allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claim 28 has not been amended and is allowable as it is dependent on Claim 27.

Claim 29 has been amended to incorporate the tensioning means originally claimed in Claim 7. Applicant submits that the combination of the seal as originally claimed in Claim 29 and the tensioning means that was found to be allowable subject matter in Claim 7, Claim 29 now is allowable. No new matter has been added.

Claims 30-32 have been amended to place them in better English and to ensure proper antecedent basis, if necessary, and are now allowable as they are dependent from Claim 29. No new matter has been added.

New Claims 33-43 have been added. New Claim 33 is identical to amended Claim 1, but with the phrase "that is rotatable" replaced with the phrase "that is displaceable". The displaceability of the outer-drum sections is referenced on page 2, second paragraph of the original Specification. New Claims 34-43 are identical to amended Claims 2-6 and 8-12, respectively, but depend from Claim 33. No new matter has been added.

Applicant has submitted previously payment for 32 total claims and 3 independent claims. The amendments to the claims result in 41 total claims and 6 independent claims, so an additional excess claims fee is attached to this Response.

3. Prior Art.

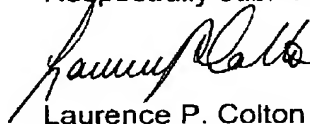
As Applicant has placed claims in condition for allowance by revising the independent claims to include the allowable subject matter, the cited prior art is moot. Therefore, Applicant does not believe there is any need to address the 35 USC 102 and 103 rejections made by the examiner.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes it has fully addressed the examiner's concerns and the claims are in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests such action.

If the examiner has any final concerns that can be addressed over the telephone, the examiner is invited to contact the below-signed attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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